

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the ability of veterans
to receive health care at private medical facilities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. RIBBLE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the
ability of veterans to receive health care at private med-
ical facilities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Health Care
5 Flexibility Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF BARRIERS TO VETERANS RECEIVING**
2 **CARE AT PRIVATE MEDICAL FACILITIES.**

3 Section 1703 of title 38, United States Code, is
4 amended—

5 (1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-
6 lows:

7 “(a)(1) Upon the election of a veteran enrolled in the
8 health care system established under section 1705(a), the
9 Secretary shall furnish to the veteran at a non-Depart-
10 ment facility hospital care and medical services that the
11 veteran is eligible to receive under this chapter.

12 “(2) The Secretary shall enter into contracts with
13 non-Department facilities to furnish hospital care and
14 medical services pursuant to paragraph (1).

15 “(3) The Secretary may not require a veteran to
16 make more than one election under paragraph (1).

17 “(4) An election made under paragraph (1) may not
18 be construed as affecting the ability of a veteran to receive
19 hospital care and medical services at a medical facility of
20 the Department.”;

21 (2) by striking subsection (b); and

22 (3) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as
23 subsections (b) and (c), respectively.